

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 01972 261151Z
ACTION ST-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 A-01 IGA-02 /020 W
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FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4044
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 1972

STATE FOR AF/EX, AF/W, OPR/ST, AID, SER/MO, AFR/EMS

LAGOS FOR WACASC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AMGT, AFSP, EAID, UV
SUBJ: US MISSION UPPER VOLTA SUPPORT: TRUCKS

REF: A. OUAGADOUGOU 1502 B. OM, 5-29-77, FROM OPR/ST/S

1. WE ARE STRUGGLING TO BUILD A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
ABLE TO SUPPORT 55 OR 60 AID FAMILIES NEXT YEAR, IN ADDITION
TO THE "REGULAR" STATE AND USIS PORTIONS OF THE MISSION. IN
REF (A) WE COVERED THE PERSONNEL NEEDS. THIS MESSAGE
ADDRESSES THE NEED FOR TRUCKS.

2. OPERATING IN A MILIEU DEVOID OF MANY COMMERCIAL AND
MUNICIPAL SERVICES, THERE ARE A SURPRISING NUMBER OF THINGS
THAT WE HAVE TO DO FOR OURSELVES. WE COLLECT OUR OWN
GARBAGE, MOVE FURNITURE AND SUPPLIES, SEND ELECTRICIANS
AND PLUMBERS FOR REPAIRS TO HOUSES, AND VERY SOON WILL BE
SUPPORTING FOUR FAMILIES IN FADA-N'GOURMAN 232 KILOMETER
FROM OUAGADOUGOU. (FADA-N'GOURMA IS A CITY WITH ZERO
SERVICES, NOT EVEN WATER AND ELECTRICITY). WE ARE
DETERMINED THAT OUR AID PROJECTS WILL NOT FAIL
BECAUSE OF LACK OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. THIS
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SUPPORT REQUIRES TRUCKS.

3. BECAUSE IT TAKES ABOUT A YEAR FROM TIME OF ORDER
TO ARRIVAL IN OUAGADOUGOU, THE NEEDED TRUCKS SHOULD
BE ORDERED NOW.

4. TRUCKS NEEDED ARE DETAILED BELOW. FORD TRUCKS ARE

REQUESTED IN ALL CASES, TO PROVIDE COMMONALITY OF PARTS WITH OTHER POST TRUCKS.

5. TWO 2 1/2 TON TRUCKS, TWO-WHEEL DRIVE, REAR LIFT GATE, STAKE BED FULL SIZE, HEAVY DUTY TIRES.

6. TWO PICK-UP TRUCKS, TWO-WHEEL DRIVE, FULL SIZE BED, SIX-CYLINDER ENGINE.

7. ALL FOUR TRUCKS SHOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH: HEAVY-DUTY SUSPENSION, COOLING SYSTEM, AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEM; ODOMETER IN KILOMETERS, YELLOW HEADLIGHTS.

8. TRUCKS SHOULD BE CONSIGNMENT TO WACASC, LAGOS. THEY CAN BE DRIVEN FROM LAGOS TO OUAGADOUGOU.

9. THE TWO PICK-UP TRUCKS ARE IN ADDITION TO THE TWO PICK-UPS PRESENTLY ON HAND.

10. ONE OF THE 2 1/2 TON TRUCKS IS TO BE A REPLACEMENT FOR THE WORN-OUT 2 1/2 TON TRUCK PRESENTLY ON HAND. REF (B) TAKES THE EXCESSIVELY MECHANISTIC VIEW THAT SINCE THIS FIVE YEAR OLD TRUCK HAS ONLY 23,755 MILES IT SHOULD LAST ANOTHER TWO YEARS UNTIL AN FY 78 REPLACEMENT TRUCK ARRIVES. THE SIMPLE FACT ON THE GROUND HERE IS THAT THE TRUCK IS WORN-OUT AND A REPLACEMENT NEEDS TO BE ORDERED NOW, NOT A YEAR FROM NOW.

11. I REPEAT, WE ARE GOING TO DO OUR UTMOST TO GIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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ADEQUATE SUPPORT TO THE DRAMATICALLY EXPANDING AID PROGRAM. IN REF (A) WE ASKED FOR THE PEOPLE TO DO THE JOB. IN THIS CABLE WE ASK FOR THE TRUCKS TO DO THE JOB.

12. ACTION REQUESTED: ORDER OF THE FOUR TRUCKS DESCRIBED IN PARAS 5-7 ABOVE. IN VIEW OF THE LONG TRANSPORTATION LEAD-TIME, REQUEST THAT ORDERS BE PLACED RIGHT AWAY. BIGELOW

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